

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VIENTI 06225 100420Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /091 W

----- 029969

R 100320Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0333

INFO AMEMBASSY PHOM PENH

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 6225

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CB, LA

SUBJECT: LAO NEWSPAPER STORY ON CONDITIONS IN KHMER

ROUGE ZONE IN CAMBODIA

1. THE VIENTIANE DAILY NEWSPAPER XAT-LAO (LAO NATION) ON AUGUST 9, 1974, PRINTED AN ARTICLE TITLED "MISERY IN THE ZONE CONTROLLED BY THE KHMER ROUGE, TOLD BY A CAMBODIAN MONK". FOLLOWING IS AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE ARTICLE:

2. "IN THE COURSE OF A VISIT TO THE WAT SENE MUONG IN THE PROVINCE OF SITHANDONE, YOUR REPORTER WAS ABLE TO INTERVIEW A KHMER MONK, THE VENERABLE PHRA KOU ATH, CHIEF OF WAT THA PEUAY, WHO SOUGHT REFUGE IN SITHANDONE BEFORE THE START OF BUDDHIST LENT. THE MONK EXPOSED THE VERY DIFFICULT CONDITIONS OF LIFE EXISTING IN THE AREAS CONTROLLED BY THE KHMER ROUGE.

3. "ACCORDING TO THE MONK, HE WAS ABLE TO FLEE FROM THAT AREA DURING THE NIGHT, BUT DURING THE DAY A PERMANENT SURVEILLANCE WAS MAINTAINED.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 VIENTI 06225 100420Z

4. "THE KHMER ROUGE PARTICULARLY FORBID YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR

AREA OF CONTROL TO TAKE HOLY ORDERS, INDICATED THE VENERABLE. THEY ATTEMPT INSTEAD TO REQUIRE MONKS TO LEAVE THEIR MONASTERIES TO TAKE UP ARMS. THE MONK ADDED THAT HE HIMSELF, THOUGH HE HAD TAKEN THE CLOTH ABOUT TWENTY YEARS AGO, WAS ASKED BY THE KHMER ROUGE ON TWO OCCASIONS TO ABANDON THE RELIGIOUS LIFE. IT WAS AFTER THESE PRESSURES THAT HE FLED THE ZONE OF MISERY FOR LAOS WHERE HE IS SPENDING LENT AT WAT MUONG SENE.

5. "SPEAKING OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN THE RED ZONE, PHRA KOU ATH STATED THAT THE POPULATION LED A VERY DIFFICULT LIFE. THEY WERE VICTIMS OF REQUISITIONS AND HAD TO PERMANENTLY SUBMIT TO PROPAGANDA SESSIONS AND EVERY SORT OF TROUBLE.

6. "AS TO THE MILITARY PROBLEM, CONTINUED THE VENERABLE, IT COME UNIQUELY FROM MR. KHIEU SAMPHAN'S ORDER WHICH FORBADE THE POPULATION IN THE ZONE BORDERING LAOS FROM RESPECTING PRINCE SI-HANOUK.

7. "THOSE WHO DO NOT OBEY THIS ORDER ARE EXECUTED MISERABLY, INDICATED THE SAME MONK WHO HAD REPORTED THE CASE OF GENERAL SOMPHONE, EXECUTED IN 1973 DURING A RECEPTION.
WHITEHOUSE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELIGIOUS LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI06225
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740219-0719
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740857/aaaabwzb.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAO NEWSPAPER STORY ON CONDITIONS IN KHMER ROUGE ZONE IN CAMBODIA
TAGS: PFOR, CB, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005